As a person of color dedicated to the movements of peace in this country and abroad, I am often perplexed at the blindness I encounter among my white liberal counterparts regarding the privilege held in this country and that we each possess. Privilege takes many forms of oppression and is not immune within activist circles. Although strongly practiced, it is denied that white-privilege, American-privilege, class-privilege, sex and gender privilege exist within the liberal, activist community. This past fall, I experienced it first-hand.

From November 17th to the 19th, I attended the WHINSEC protest for reasons that are deeply personal, deeply spiritual, deeply rooted in my being as a Samoan American - reasons that I felt were not shared by the white majority who had also attended. The protest took a political stand against American brutal militarism abroad, by demanding the closure of the Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation. WHINSEC is the US funded school that teaches Latin American soldiers the paradoxical idea that the road to peace is paved through stronger and highly trained militaries.

In this issue of the MOSAIC, you will explore one persons’ remarkable experience at a protest rally. You will also learn about the many opportunities to get involved through the Diversity & Retention Department at South Seattle Community College. Diversity Matters!

Right: students participating in the Student Life/Student Services Leadership Retreat (Summer 2006) learn about community service opportunities in West Seattle

Story Continued on Page 6
Dean & Director’s Corner

Cessa Heard-Johnson
Dean of Diversity, Retention & Student Leadership

The Dean is the head of the Diversity & Retention Department. In this capacity, Cessa is the chair for the President’s Committee on Diversity & Retention, which meets every 1st Thursday of the month to plan and implement campus-wide initiatives. Cessa is also the head of Student Life.

Phone: (206) 768-6749
Email: chjohnson@sccd.ctc.edu
Office: JMB 135

Jo Anderson
Director for the Office of Diversity & Retention

As the Director for the Office of Diversity & Retention, Jo advocates for the best educational environment for underrepresented students at South by developing and implementing academic services and programs. Jo also manages the Cultural Center and Women’s Center on campus.

Phone: (206) 768-6455
Email: janderson@sccd.ctc.edu
Office: RSB 158

This winter, we will be co-teaching a Social Justice & Diversity class that explores issues of social oppression. This class is one of the ways that we create a safe and inclusive campus for everyone.

We encourage you to take advantage of all the opportunities we offer to explore your culture and those different from your own, which is an important part of your community college experience.

The Women’s Center

Claudia Alexandra Paras
Coordinator

Welcome to the Women’s Center! We are located in JMB 148 right next to the game room. One of our goals is to provide support and referral services for women on our campus. We have information about scholarships, childcare, housing, health, domestic violence and legal resources to help students. Our doors are open to all who want to stop by and have a place to relax and meet other people.

Xuan Don
Student Staff

Hi, my name is Xuan. I have been attending SSCC for almost two years. I love it here because everyone from faculty to students are so nice and willing to offer help. I am proud to be part of the WC because I can help women with their difficulties so that they can do better in school. So don’t hesitate to stop by the WC to visit me and our wonderful staff here.

January: Self-Defense Workshops
February: Speaker Series
March: International Women’s Day Celebration and HIV Awareness Workshops

For more information on any of these events, please email the cparas@sccd.ctc.edu or call
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE
The Office of Diversity & Retention offers many resources, including a library of multicultural books and films that can be checked out from our office. Below are film titles we carry that can be screened for educational purposes. We also have a Holocaust Teaching Trunk that is full of books, videos, and curriculum created by the Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center. If you are looking for supplemental resources for your class, workshop, or seminar, please stop by RS 158 to view our collection.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After Stonewall VHS</td>
<td>In 1969, the police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in NYC, leading to three nights of rioting by the gay community. Film chronicles the history of lesbian and gay life from the riots at Stonewall to the end of the Century.</td>
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<td>Ali-Salaam - Soul Survivor DVD</td>
<td>Author speaks from a Muslim American perspective, exploring the historical realities of Jihad.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before Stonewall VHS</td>
<td>The dramatic story of the sometimes horrifying public and private existences experience by gay and lesbian Americans since the 1920's.</td>
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<td>Beyond Black And White VHS</td>
<td>PBS film about the affirmative action debate and its polarizing effect on society.</td>
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<td>Birth of a Nation VHS</td>
<td>Explores the social disruptions caused by post-Civil War Reconstruction. The film was adapted from a propaganda piece about the Ku Klux Klan and reflects the resentment of Whites by depicting radical Republicans and “uppity” African-Americans as the cause of all social, political, and economic problems since the Civil War.</td>
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<td>Bowling for Columbine DVD</td>
<td>Michael Moore takes aim at America's love affair with guns and violence in this Oscar winning film.</td>
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<td>The Brandon Teena Story VHS</td>
<td>The true story upon which the critically acclaimed Boys Don’t Cry is based, revealing how sparks from sexual ambiguity (a young woman living as a man) and individuality can ignite incomprehensible violence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conscience and the Constitution VHS</td>
<td>In World War II, a handful of young American refused to be drafted from a Japanese American concentration camp. They were ready to fight for their country, but not before the U.S. restored their rights as citizens.</td>
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<td>Crash DVD</td>
<td>Oscar winner for Best Film, Crash is a compelling urban thriller tracking the volatile intersection of a multiethnic cast of characters struggling to overcome their fears as they careen in and out of one another’s lives.</td>
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<td>A Day Without a Mexican DVD</td>
<td>A comedic satire in which the California Dream becomes a hilarious nightmare when the entire Latin American population mysteriously vanishes.</td>
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<td>Dream Worlds II VHS</td>
<td>Illustrates the systematic representations of women in music video, resulting in how women think about themselves sexually, and how men think sexually about women.</td>
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<td>Ethnic Notions VHS</td>
<td>Documentary that takes viewers on a disturbing voyage through American history, tracing the evolution of the deeply rooted stereotypes which have fueled anti-black prejudice.</td>
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<td>In Whose Honor DVD</td>
<td>American Indian nicknames and mascots have been used in sports for years. Film takes a critical look at the long-running practice of &quot;honoring&quot; American Indians by using them in this way.</td>
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<td>Magda Schaloum DVD</td>
<td>Hungarian survivor of Auschwitz concentration camp speaks of the horrors of the holocaust.</td>
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<td>A Question of Color VHS</td>
<td>Documentary confronting &quot;color consciousness&quot; in the black community. It explores the devastating effect of a caste system based on how closely skin color, hair texture and facial features conform to a European ideal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger &amp; Me VHS</td>
<td>Documentary about Roger Moore’s efforts to meet General Motors Chairman Roger Smith and persuade him to visit Moore's hometown of Flint, Michigan to meet the working men and women of the auto industry.</td>
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<td>Senorita Extraviada VHS</td>
<td>Part of the &quot;Women Make Movies&quot; series: Señorita Extraviada, Missing Young Woman tells the story of the hundreds of kidnapped, raped and murdered young women of Juárez, Mexico.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slaying the Dragon VHS</td>
<td>Documentary that takes a comprehensive look at media stereotypes of Asian and Asian American women since the silent era.</td>
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<td>Tim Wise DVD</td>
<td>Nationally reknown and dynamic speaker discusses racism and classism in America.</td>
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<td>Unchained Memories DVD</td>
<td>In the midst of the Great Depression, the Federal Writers Project hired journalists and writers to travel the country and record the memories of the last generation of African Americans born into bondage.</td>
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Cultural Center Winter Calendar ‘07

January

Tuesday, January 2, 2007
10:00-5:00 pm, Cultural Center, JMB 146
Textbook Loan Library

Monday, January 8, 2007
9:00-3pm, JMB 140 (Sign up in JMB 146)
HIV Screening

Tuesday, January 16, 2007
2:00-3:00pm, Game Room or JMB B
Non-Violence Workshop

Friday, January 18, 2006
12pm to 3pm, Seattle University
University Campus Visit

February—Black History Month

Thursday, February 1, 2007
12:00-2:00 pm, JMB A&B
African American Soul Day

Monday, February 12, 2007
9am-3:00 pm, JMB 140
HIV Screening

Wednesday, February 14, 2007
2:00-3:00pm, JMB 140
Abuses in Law Enforcement Panel

Tuesday, February 20, 2007
Time to be Determined, JMB A&B
4th Annual Day of Remembrance
Japanese Internment

Tuesday, February 27, 2007
6pm to 9pm, JMB A&B
Drag Night Extravaganza

March—Women’s Herstory Month

Tuesday, March 6, 2007
12:00-2:00 pm, JMB A&B
African Cultural Celebration Day

Friday, March 9, 2006
Off Campus, Western Washington University
University Campus Visit

Monday, March 12, 2006
9pm – 3pm, JMB 140 (Sign up in JMB 146)
HIV Screening

Tuesday, March 13, 2007
2:00-3pm, JMB 140
Darfur Awareness

March 21-30, 2007
Cultural Center Closed

Representative Joe McDermott (fourth from right) visited South to speak during our annual National Coming Out Day Celebration. 10/11/06

A student demonstrates Fancy Dancing during our 1st Nations Celebration. 11/13/06

An altar for the women of Juarez, Mexico is displayed during our Dia de los Muertos event. 11/2/06
The Cultural Center

Josefa Seia
Coordinator
Welcome to the Cultural Center! Our staff is committed to providing cultural events and activities that educate members of the campus community. We are also committed to providing academic and support services to members of our underrepresented communities here at SCCC.

We are very excited about our winter quarter events. You can find our calendar of events in this issue of the MOSAIC. If you have any questions or concerns, please stop by the Cultural Center (JMB 146) during our hours of operation, 10am–5pm daily. You may contact us by phone at (206) 764-7969 or email me at jseia@scdc.ctc.edu.

Naema Jama
African Student Commissioner
Salam. Hi, everyone and welcome back. My name is Naema, I am the new African Commissioner for 2006-2007. Also, I am a member of both SSA (Somali Student Association) & MSA (Muslim Student Association).

I have worked at Cultural Center last year as an office assistant and it was fun. We had more than fifty educational events and multicultural celebrations! This year we will have more exciting events. Please join us for your community events and learn more about the others. If you want to know more about the other cultures, the Cultural Center is great place to be.

Patrick Passapong
LGBTQ Student Commissioner
Hello. My name is Patrick, the LGBTQ (Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Questioning) Student Commissioner. This winter quarter, I will have many events for you to join such as Drag night Extravaganza, HIV Screenings, and more.

I would like to emphasize Drag Night for this year. This year, Drag Night’s theme will be “all of 70’s,” make sure you put your sassy self together and sache’ into our 70’s era here at South Seattle Community College. Hope you all have a great quarter and don’t be shy to stop by and say “Hello”!

Alex Espinoza and Alejandra Martinez
Chicano(a)/Hispanic/Latino(a) (C/H/L) Student Commissioners
Last quarter, the C/H/L Commissioners held a very successful Dia de los Muertos event that explored the “Mujeres de Ciudad Juarez” (Women of Juarez).

The program included an altar and an inspiring keynote address from Magdaleno Rose-Avila, the Executive Director of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. To learn more about this topic, visit the video library in the Office of Diversity & Retention (RS 158).

Acquilla Cranshaw
African American Student Commissioner
Hi, my name is Acquilla and I am the African-American Commissioner for the Cultural Center. This is my second year as a commissioner and am glad to be back to bring old favorites and new exciting events for the school year. Not only am I here to do events (I always love to hear ideas from students and faculty about events they would like to see happen) but I am also here as a resource. I hope you have a successful quarter and I hope to see you at my events.

Levina (Lee) Austin
Native American Student Commissioner
I am very excited about being the new Native American Commissioner and looking forward to planning events which will benefit my community. I have already had a successful First Nations Celebration that featured guest speaker and elder, Alice Tu.

I started College here at age 61 in year 2005. I just couldn’t see myself retired! I also was facing much poverty, so here I am with 70 credits, going for a BA. I look forward to spending a long time with you here at SSCC.

Need a textbook? The Cultural Center has a textbook loan library available to students! Pick up an application the first day of each quarter.

Tan Nguyen
Office Assistant
Hi, my name is Tan. This is my second year at South. When I’m not working I am usually around the ping pong table. I love working at the Cultural Center because I get to meet many people and participate in many cultural events that they offer. This year we hired Thien Dihn (below).

As office assistants, we answer phone calls, check out books to students, and help keep the Center clean. We will have many exciting upcoming events and the best part is that most of our events are free. If you have questions please stop by or just stop by to hang out with us.
Blinding Privilege Continued from Page 1

Privilege. It is not solidarity when one can afford multiple trips to witness the poor of Latin America or when one cries at the sight of oppression abroad, and yet refuses to see the pains of racism here in our own neighborhoods. This is privilege – unearned power that affords one advantages from skin color (the white majority), wealth, being heterosexual, being male, etc. and any combination of these. I pray that one day we will be all strong enough to look within us, so we can change for a more peaceful world.


MSSDC’s 17th Annual Student of Color Conference
“Diversity in Action: Openin’ Minds, Makin’ Changes!”

Thursday – Saturday, April 12th-14th, 2007
Yakima, Washington

Students are encouraged to attend the 17th Annual Students of Color Conference sponsored by the Multicultural Student Services Directors’ Council.

This fun and educational event will feature keynote speakers, such as Tissa Hami, Byron Hurt, and Magdaleno Rose-Avila; countless workshops exploring diversity and social justice; an open mic, dance, and screening of the award winning documentary “Beyond Beats & Rhymes.”

Registration packets will be available in the Office of Diversity & Retention mid-late January.

Diversity matters.